



Criteria for Evaluating Funding Requests to the SIEC



There are many grants and funding opportunities for public safety and homeland security available that should be explored prior to seeking funding from the SIEC. Entities seeking funding support from the SIEC should be able to show other funding sources, matching funding, and the ability to sustain the commitment, vision, and direction of the effort over the long term. The project to be funded should support the basic pillars of the SIEC public safety interoperability strategy:

- Interoperability
- Partnering
- Capacity
- Information Sharing
- Positioning for the Future

Requestors for funding should review the Report of the Interoperability Project Team to the Public Safety Communications Interoperability Governance Work Group ***“Public Safety Communications Interoperability in Maryland”*** MD-IPT-RPT-R3C1, dated 28 February 2005. This Report is available on the web at:

<http://www.gov.state.md.us/homelandsecurity.html>

Requestors should indicate in their requests how their project plan aligns with and supports these pillars. The SIEC will evaluate all requests for funding based on their alignment with and support to the five pillars.



Evaluation Criteria Checklist for Funding Requests

Score (Y/N)	Evaluation Criteria	Reviewer Comment
Interoperability		
	Supports interoperable voice and/or data communications between systems & organizations	
	Improve public safety communication systems interoperability (technical)	
	Improve public safety communication systems interoperability (processes)	
	Improve public safety communication systems interoperability (infrastructure)	
	Statewide project scope	
	Regional project scope	
	Countywide project scope	
	Enhance capabilities to provide statewide real-time voice and/or data communications	
	Enhance capabilities to provide secure, real-time voice and/or data communications	
	Enhance capabilities to provide coordinated, interoperable, real-time voice and/or data communications	
	Enhance capabilities facilitate the sharing of emergency services information across jurisdictions and agencies.	
	Enhance interoperable communications performance for major events.	
	Enhance interoperable communications performance for task force coordination.	
	Enhance interoperable communication performance for routine day-to-day coordination.	
	Standards-based solution.	
	Open architecture.	
Partnering		
	Assists in bridging organizational boundaries.	
	Support partnering between organizations.	
	Support partnering between municipalities	
	Support partnering between counties.	
	Support partnering between State & local government.	
	Support partnering between Maryland and neighboring governments.	
	Addresses cross-regional issues by bringing together technical and political leadership	
	Addresses cross-regional issues by converging fragmented efforts	
Capacity		
	Contribute to increasing system capacity.	
	Scalable infrastructure/program solution	
	Designed for high availability, stability, quality of service	
	Provides sufficient capacity to support coordinated response activity	



	Enhance efficiency & value of existing radio/frequency channels (i.e. provides multiple talk paths per channel)	
	Multiple layers of voice and data communication channels to enhance the ability to communicate during significant emergency response situations (redundancy)	
Information Sharing		
	Support information sharing (public safety mobile data capabilities) through technical solution implementation.	
	Support information sharing (public safety mobile data capabilities) through improved processes.	
	Support information sharing (public safety mobile data capabilities) through data standardization, etc.	
	Support the rollout of additional services such as short messaging, paging, mapping, and data	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (geographic coverage)	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (data access & availability)	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (data mining)	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (data development)	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (applications)	
	Expands current mobile data capabilities (data viewing)	
	Improves information flow (process/CONOPS)	
	Adheres to (defined) procedural and protocol guidelines	
	Improves information flow (exercise/testing)	
	Improves information flow (applications/ technology)	
Position for the Future		
	Help in obtaining a greater share of Federal grant funds for public safety communications and interoperability voice and data projects.	
	Contribute to positioning Maryland for the future statewide 700 MHz system capabilities.	
	Support migration to statewide 700 MHz system	
	Digital/IP	
	Converged voice & data communications	
Other		
	Operations & Maintenance program plan	
	Operations & Maintenance funding availability	
	Uses existing systems/technology	
	Leverage public & private resources	
	Adheres to (defined) security requirements	

Public Safety Communications Project Proposal/Funding Request Form

Date of Application/Proposal Submission:					
Organizational Information					
Legal Name of Organization Applying:					
Point of contact submitting proposal/request:					
Contact Information					
POC Phone number(s):		Fax:		email:	
Mailing Address: City: State: Zip Code:					
Project Information					
Project Name/Title:					
<p>Project Overview (not to exceed one page)</p> <p><i>If a similar program or service has been conducted by your organization or another, please discuss its impact. Does it represent an expansion or duplication of services in your area? If it doesn't, define its potential to serve as a model program locally or nationally.</i></p>					
<p>Requirement the project will address/key goals to be achieved:</p> <p><i>Describe your plan to document progress and results. Interim and final evaluation and expenditure reports will be required for every grant awarded.</i></p>					
Project Technical issues:					
Technology to be employed/vendor:					
Articulate benefits to be gained through project:					
Project's Operational ramifications/Concept of Operations:					
Project's Contribution to statewide public safety communications interoperability/Why the SIEC should provide support and advocate this project:					
How requested funding will be utilized:					
Project Timeline/Schedule					
Project start date:					
Project completion date:					
Project Participants					
Participants involved in the project:					
Partners, external interfaces, operations, users of the project:					
What organizations, agencies, municipalities, counties will benefit from or be affected by the					

project:

Geographic area served:

Project Administration/Budget	
Are you currently receiving Program Funding?	
Funding source and amount:	
Identify any matching funds:	
Funding source and amount:	
Project Funding requirements (total cost):	
Amount requested from SIEC:	
Provide financials to indicate project sustainability:	
Sponsoring organization, point of contact and approval (signature):	